

REMARKS

Claims 2-5, 16-19, 23, 26, and 31-32 are pending in the application. Claims 31 and 32 are independent, and claims 22-25, 16-19, 23, 26 are dependent.

Claims 2, 5, 16-19, 23, and 26 have been amended. New claims 31 and 32 have been added. Support for the amendments may be found on page 19, paragraph 0057 to page 20, paragraph 58.

These changes are believed to introduce no new matter and their entry is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 1-30 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter the Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner rejected independent claims 1, 6, 10, 11, 12, 20, and 27 as being vague and indefinite. Applicants have canceled independent claims 1, 6, 10, 11, 12, 20, and 27, which cancellation renders the rejection moot. Accordingly Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and remove the rejection.

Rejection of the Claims 1-30 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0126345 9 to Green et al. (hereinafter "Green") or U.S. Patent No. 6, 282,215 to Zorabedian et al. (hereinafter "Zorabedian") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,081,539 to Mattori et al. (hereinafter "Mattori"). Applicants have canceled independent claims 1, 6, 10, 11, 12, 20, and 27, which cancellation renders the rejection moot. Accordingly Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and remove the rejection.

CONCLUSION

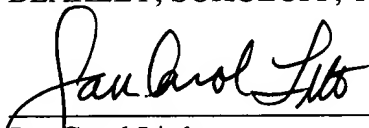
The Applicant submits that all grounds for rejection have been properly rendered moot. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections and pass claims 2-5, 16-19, 23, 26, and 31-32 to allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: _____

9/10/03

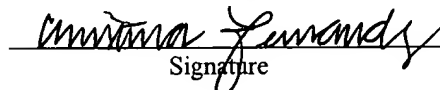

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